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SPECIAL PROGRAM FOR 90
TO START AT UM THIS FALL

MISSOULA--

Ninety freshmen and sophomores at the University of Montana this fall will have the opportunity to participate in an experimental program unique to the Missoula campus.

Several members of the UM faculty are inaugurating a program designed to counteract some of the frustrations and discouragement underclassmen are liable to encounter as they embark on their first years of university study.

The program, modeled after one which has been in effect at the University of California at Berkeley, will cut across departmental lines in order to provide a cohesive year of study which will, in addition, take care of a student's Group IV and part of his Group III requirements.

The students, about 70 per cent chosen from the top 50 per cent of the incoming freshmen and the rest from the most qualified sophomores to apply, will spend 12 hours per quarter in readings, classes, seminars and written work. Such concentrated effort, the involved faculty members hope, will provide students with a sense of continuity and aid them in obtaining a "liberal" education in the most fruitful sense of the word.

According to Dr. Thomas Huff, assistant professor of philosophy at UM, the need for the program grew out of the problems inherent in undergraduate work at a university, namely the premature specialization and fragmentation students undergo in order to meet requirements.

Usually, Dr. Huff said, work during the first two years is scattered among required courses which, instead of providing a base for a liberal education, tend to be stepping blocks for further specialization.

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Such fragmentation, he said, does not seem the best way to begin a university career and does not help the student realize a solid relationship with the totality of his work. Thus, the program is concerned with developing minds and human understanding rather than simply communication knowledge.

The main theme of the year's work will be "responsibility and freedom," and in pursuing their studies, students will read a wide range of selections. For example, the first quarter will involve work in Homer, Euripides, Thucydides, Plato, Aristotle and selections from the Bible.

Second quarter will be spent in discussion of Marcus Aurelius, Dante, Hobbes, Descartes, Shakespeare and selections representative of the Reformation, Puritanism and students will pursue studies in Marx, the rise of modern science. During spring quarter/Mill and Freud, plus such contemporary selections as the "Autobiography of Malcolm X", "One Dimensional Man" and "Silent Spring."

Students who complete the year's work will have earned 36 credits under the following course designations: General 151, 152 and 153 (nine credits), General 351 (nine credits), General 451 (one credit), History 495 (nine credits), Political Science 352 (five credits) and Political Science 356 (three credits). The use of these course designations during the experimental year has been made possible by the consent of members of the departments involved.

Course requirements include a paper every two weeks which students will discuss in private conference with their instructors. In addition, participants will meet together for a two-hour lecture every Monday.

The students will be divided into three groups of 30 for additional class sessions once a week for two hours and into groups of 15 for seminars once a week for two hours.

Participants also may take one other course and a physical education class each quarter.

Dr. Henry Bugbee, chairman of the UM philosophy department, and Dr. John Lawry, associate professor of philosophy, will be involved in the program throughout the year. In addition, Dr. Huff will teach during fall quarter. Dr. M. Van de Wetering, lecturer in humanities, will teach winter quarter, and Fred McGlynn, instructor of philosophy, will teach spring quarter.

If the program is successful during its experimental year, it will be continued, in which case a special staff will be designated for teaching.